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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/824,117	04/02/2001	David W. Boyd	10003824-1	9177

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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
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EXAMINER

AL HASHEMI, SANA A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2161

DATE MAILED: 05/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/824,117

Applicant(s)

BOYD ET AL.

Examiner

Sana Al-Hashemi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 33-45 and 53-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 33-45 and 53-60 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is issued in response to applicant's amendment filed 3/21/05.
2. Claims 33-45, 53-59 were amended. Claims 60-63 were added. Claims 1-32 were canceled. Claims 46-52 were withdrawn.
3. Claims 33-45, and 53-63 are pending.

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 4/2/2003 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 53 recites the limitation "at a time " in "generating information identifying an image at a time said image is captured". It's unclear to the office on who the information is generated and how will generates this information and whether the information is generated at the excite time of the image capturing or before or after the image is captured?

Clarification is required.

Dependent Claims 54-58 inherent the deficiency from claim 53.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 33-38, 40-45, 53-55, and 60-63, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Slater et al. (Slater hereinafter) (US Patent 6,483,570) in view of Parulski et al (Parulski hereinafter) (US Patent No. 6,629,104).

Regarding Claim 33, Slater discloses a method comprising:

using camera to capture at least one image; (see Col 5, lines 52-55, Slater), Slater is silent regarding the user of a camera, although, no images can be captured or processed without the use of a camera and to expedite the prosecution the Examiner presents a secondary reference Parulski discloses the use of a camera to capture images (Fig. 2, 10, Col. 3, lines 39-45). It would have been obvious to use the camera to capture photos since it's the only way images can be captured.

capture information associated with said image, wherein said information is stored in a database; and (see Col. 2, lines 55-63, Parulski); and

using said information to generate a label having an identifier, wherein the label is adapted to be affixed to a storage device that is adapted to hold printed copies of the plurality of images (see column 6, lines 1-8, Slater, Col. 3, lines 14-26, Parulski).

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Regarding Claim 34, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method wherein said image is a digital image further comprising:

storing each image of the plurality of images in said database (see column 7, lines 30-37, Slater);

Regarding Claims 35, and 44, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method wherein capturing said information comprises:

forming metadata during formation of said image(see column 7, lines 51-54, Slater).

Regarding Claim 36, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method wherein capturing said information comprises:

accepting said information from a user (see column10, lines 19-27, Slater).

Regarding Claims 37, and 43, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method wherein the information is at least one of:

GPS coordinates;

a time;

a date;

camera information;

an audio file;

at least one keyword;

a description of subject matter of the image (see column 15, lines 1-6, Slater); and

an event associated with the image (see column 6, lines 1-10, Slater).

Regarding Claims 38, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method wherein the storage device is selected from the group consisting of:

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an envelope (see column 7, lines 60-65, Slater);

an album; and

a box.

Regarding Claim 40, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method further comprising:

forming at least a portion of the plurality of images by a non-digital camera (see column 10, lines 32-39, Slater); and

converting the at least a portion of the plurality of images into digital form (see column 10, lines 2-10, Slater).

Regarding Claim 41, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method further comprising:

placing the label on the storage device (see column 7, lines 60-65, Slater); and

placing printed copies of the plurality of images in the storage device (see Fig. 7, Slater).

Regarding Claim 42, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method further comprising:

searching the database with a query to locate a printed copy of one image of the plurality of images (see column 6, lines 31-43, Slater);

providing the identifier associated with the one image (see column 6, lines 44-47m Slater) ;

locating the storage container with the label having the identifier (see column 6, lines 45-49, Slater);

searching the storage container for the printed copy of the one image (see column 7, lines 30-35, Salter).

Regarding Claim 45, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method further comprising:

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searching the database with a query to locate the printed copy of the image (see column 6, lines 31-43, Slater); and

providing the thumbnail representation of the image (see column 10, lines 19-27, Slater).

Regarding Claim 53, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method comprising:

generating information identifying an image at a time said image is captured (Col. 2, lines 28-38, Parulski);

automatically producing meta-data associated with said image (Col. 3, lines 9-13, Parulski);

providing the meta-data into a database (Col. 3, lines 5-8, Parulski);

generating a label that is adapted to be affixed to a storage device adapted to hold a printed copy of said image, wherein said label has an identifier generated from said identifying information (see column 6, lines 1-8, Slater, Col. 3, lines 14-26, Parulski); and

providing said identifier into said database (Col. 6, lines 9-21, Parulski).

Regarding Claims 54, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method wherein said identifying information is automatically generated by a device capturing said image (see column 14, lines 6-8, Slater);.

Regarding Claims 55, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method further comprising:

providing a thumbnail representation of the image into the database (see column 11, lines 20-30, Slater); and

printing the thumbnail representation on the label (see column 11, lines 30-46, Slater).

Regarding Claim 56, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method wherein the meta-data

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includes global position system (GPS) coordinates acquired at a time when the image is produced.

Regarding Claim 60, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method further comprising: generating a thumbnail of said image on said label (see column 11, lines 20-30, Slater).

Regarding Claim 61, Slater in view of Parulski discloses method further comprising: organizing said images on said computer using said meta-data (Col 5, lines 43-54, Parulski).

Regarding Claim 62, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method further comprising: automatically creating, with said computer, said identifier (col. 6, lines 1-8, Parulski).

Regarding Claim 63, Slater in view of Parulski discloses a method further comprising: storing, in said computer, said meta-data, said user data, and said identifier (col. 6, lines 1-8, Parulski).

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 39, 56-58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Slater et al. (US Patent 6,483,570) in view of Parulski et al (Parulski hereinafter) (US Patent No. 6,629,104) and further in view of Reed (US Patent No. 6,426,801).

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Regarding Claim 39, Slater discloses all of the claimed subject matter as set forth above. However, Slater is silent with regard to the method of forming at least a portion of the plurality of images by a digital camera. However, Reed on the other hand discloses the use of formatting at least a portion of the plurality of images by a digital camera (see column 6, lines 26-32, Reed). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to develop films from digital camera as suggested by Reed, with the motivation of increasing the market share and make it accessible for higher verity of customers, which in other words increase the company's revenue.

Claim 39 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Slater et al. (US Patent 6,483,570) in view of) in view of Parulski et al (Parulski hereinafter) (US Patent No. 6,629,104) and further in view of Kinjo (US Patent No. 6,813,395).

Regarding Claim 56, Slater discloses all of the claimed subject matter set forth above. However, Slater does not disclose the use of the GPS to coordinates acquired at a time when the image is produced. On the other hand, Kinjo discloses the use of the GPS coordinating at the time the image is produced. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the GPS in coordinating the time of the image is to provide the user with higher and more specific details as taught by Kinjo column 23, lines 1-54.

Regarding Claim 57, Slater in view of Kinjo discloses a method further comprising:
searching for the image in the database by submitting a query to the database, wherein the query includes criteria associated with at least one of the meta-data and the user data (see column 24, lines 32-42, Kinjo).


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Regarding Claim 58, Slater in view of Kinjo discloses a method further comprising:
displaying a thumbnail representation of the image upon matching the query to the image
in the database (see column 17, lines 48-57, Slater).

Points of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to: Sana Al-Hashemi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4013. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic, can be reached on (571) 272-4023. Any response to this office action should be mailed to: The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. Or telefax at phone number (703) 746-7416. For formal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT". Hand-delivered response should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, 6th Floor Receptionist, Arlington, Virginia. 22202.

Sana Al-Hashemi
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100
May 17, 2005


Sana Al-Hashemi